

From: Rick Mason
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/23/02 11:25am
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

To Whom It May Concern;

I am opposed to the proposed settlement in the Microsoft antitrust trial. I feel that the current proposed settlement does not fully redress the actions committed by Microsoft in the past, nor inhibit their ability to commit similar actions in the future.

In addition, the remedies in the Proposed Final Judgement specifically protect only companies in commerce, that is, organizations in business for profit. However, Microsoft's greatest single competitor on the operating system front comes from Linux, a non-commercial product. The biggest competitor to Microsoft Internet Information Server is Apache, which comes from the Apache Foundation, another not-for-profit. Yet not-for-profit organizations have no rights at all under the proposed settlement. According to Section III(J)(2), Microsoft is not compelled to disclose or license API, documentation, or communications protocols affecting authentication and authorization to companies that don't meet Microsoft's criteria as a business. Therefore Microsoft has the ability under this settlement to deny information to any non-profit competitor, and thus the settlement will actually increase Microsoft's unlawful monopoly.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Richard C. Mason
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